

## Last Katrina bridge police trial starts today

By Michael Kunzelman The Associated Press NEW ORLEANS — Twenty New Orleans police officers have been charged in a series of probes by the Justice Department's civil rights division since 2010. A retired sergeant who was assigned to investigate deadly police shootings on a bridge after Hurricane Katrina will be the last of those officers to get his day in court.

A trial is scheduled to start today for Gerard Dugue, who is charged with participating in a cover-up to make it appear police were justified in shooting six unarmed people, killing two, on the Danziger Bridge less than a week after the 2005 storm.

A judge ordered separate trials for Dugue and five other current or former officers who were convicted in August of civil rights violations stemming from the bridge shootings.

"He is completely and totally innocent," said Dugue's attorney, Claude Kelly.

The hurricane, which struck Louisiana and Mississippi on

Aug. 29, 2005, drove a wall of water into the coast. Levees broke and flooded roughly 80 percent of New Orleans, plunging the city into chaos and dangerous conditions.

Dugue isn't charged in the shooting. He wasn't on the bridge the morning of Sept. 4, 2005, when police shot and killed 17-year-old James Brissette and 40-year-old Ronald Madison, a mentally disabled man. Dugue didn't get involved in the case until several weeks later, when the department assigned him to help another sergeant investigate.

A jury convicted retired Sgr. Arthur Kaufman of participating in a cover-up that included a planted gun, phony witnesses and falsified reports.

Unlike Dugue, Kaufman was on the bridge in the aftermath of the shootings. Former Lt. Michael Lohman, who was the ranking officer on the scene, initially assigned Kaufman to lead the investigation.

Kaufman told the FBI he found a revolver in a grassy area beside the bridge a day after the shootings. Prosecutors.

however, said Kaufman retrieved the gun from his home several weeks later and turned it in as evidence, claiming it was thrown off the bridge by Ronald Madison's brother Lance.

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Kaufman and Dugue interviewed officers who fired their guns on the bridge. They allegedly co-authored a report that included statements they knew to be false. An indictment claims the two investigators told the officers to "make sure they had their stories straight" before they gave taped statements.

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Kaufman's attorney, Stephen London, argued during last year's trial that Dugue was responsible for the contents of the department's official report.

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Dugue allegedly lied to a federal agent when he said he didn't question the truthfulness of the officers' statements or doubt their actions were justified.

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"In fact," the indictment says, "he had many 'red flags' and 'question marks' about the officers' stories, but he reported the questionable information as fact and relied upon it without qualification."

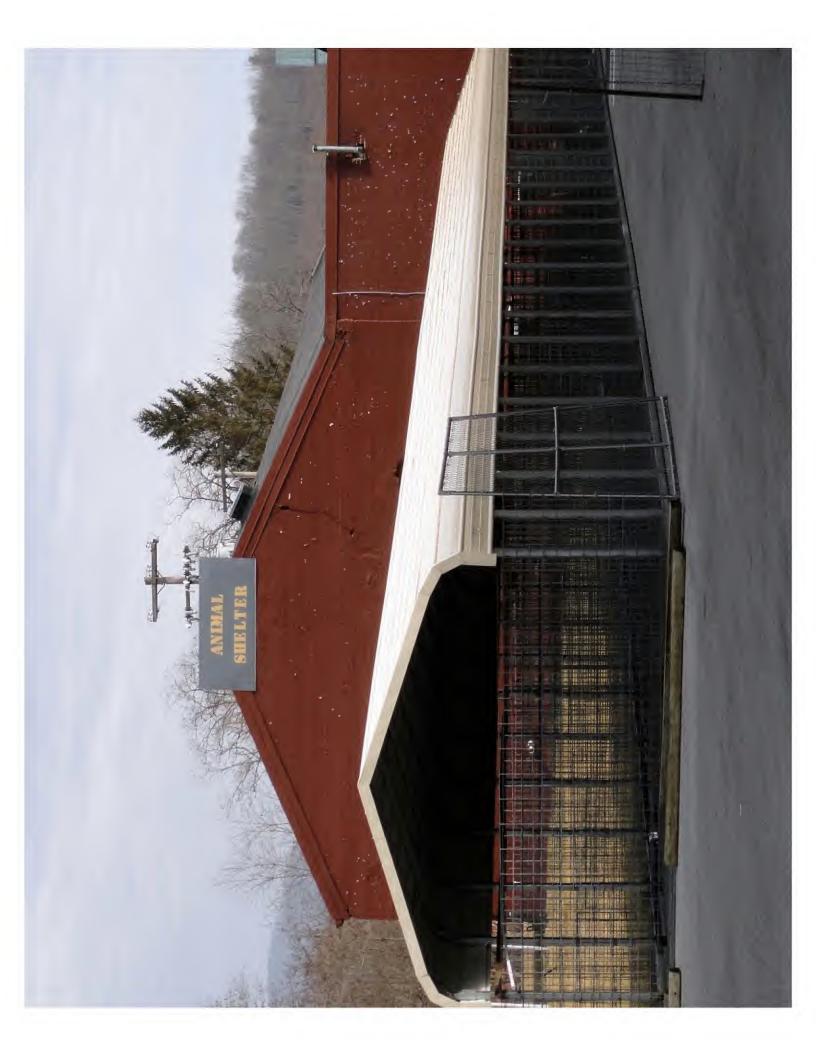
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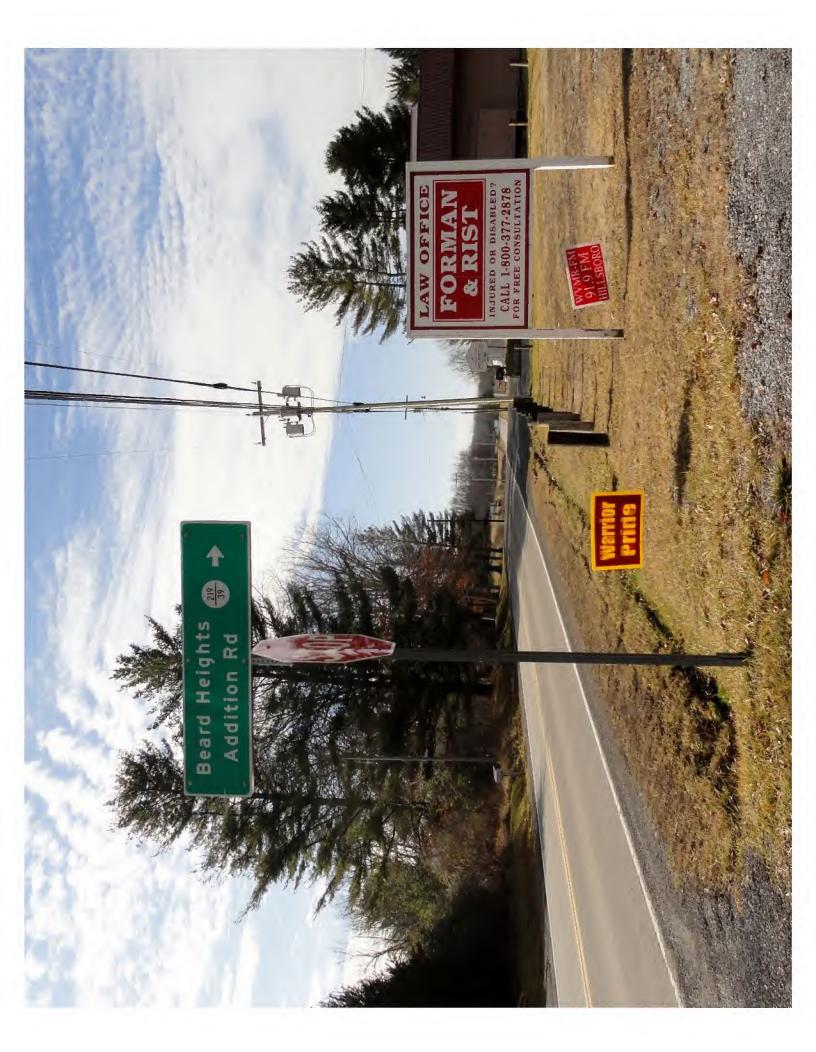
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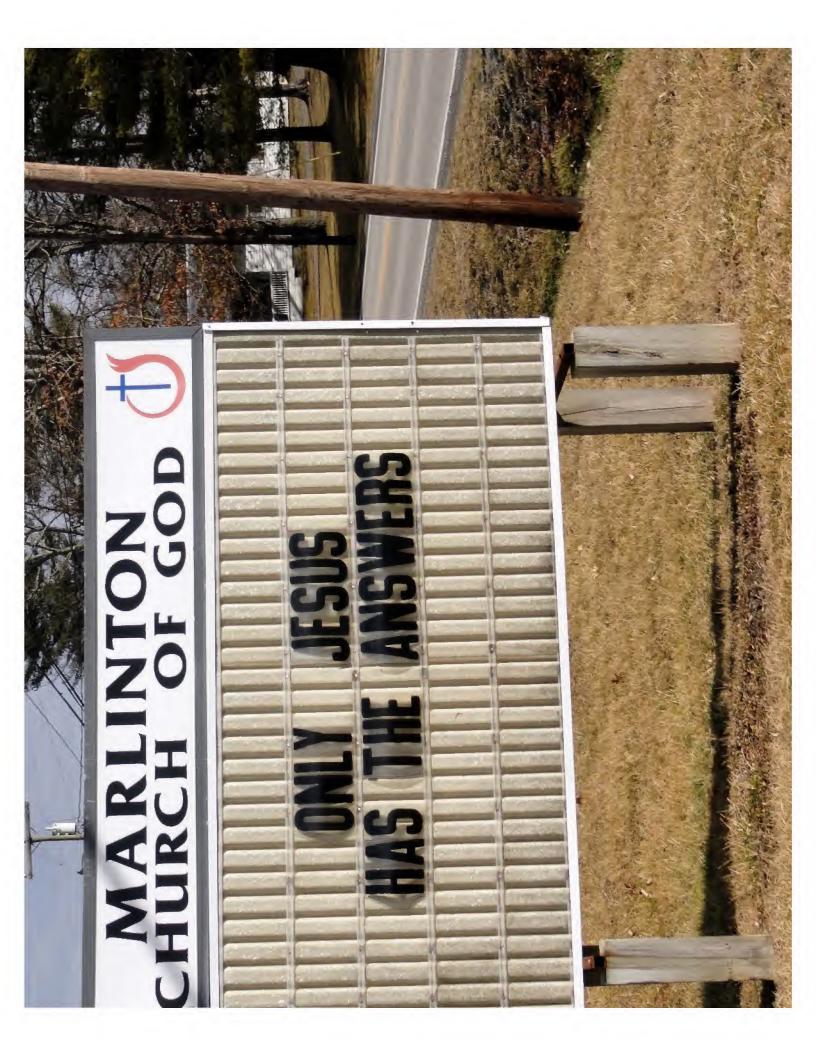
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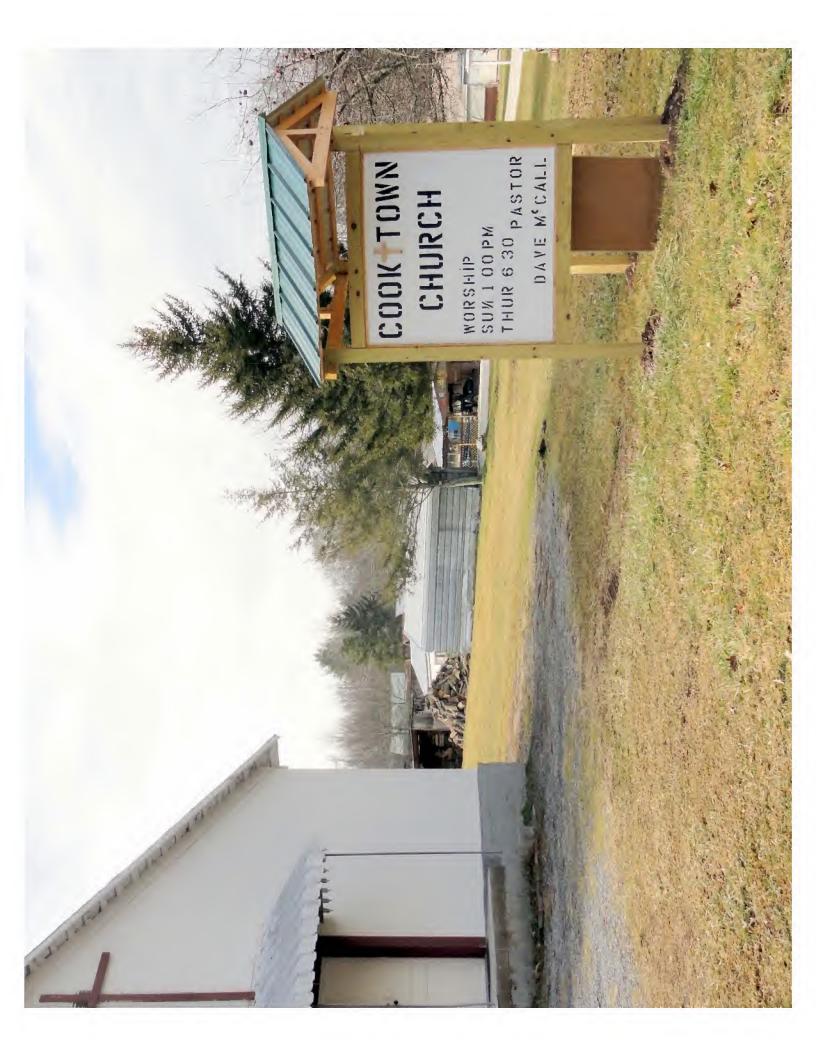


















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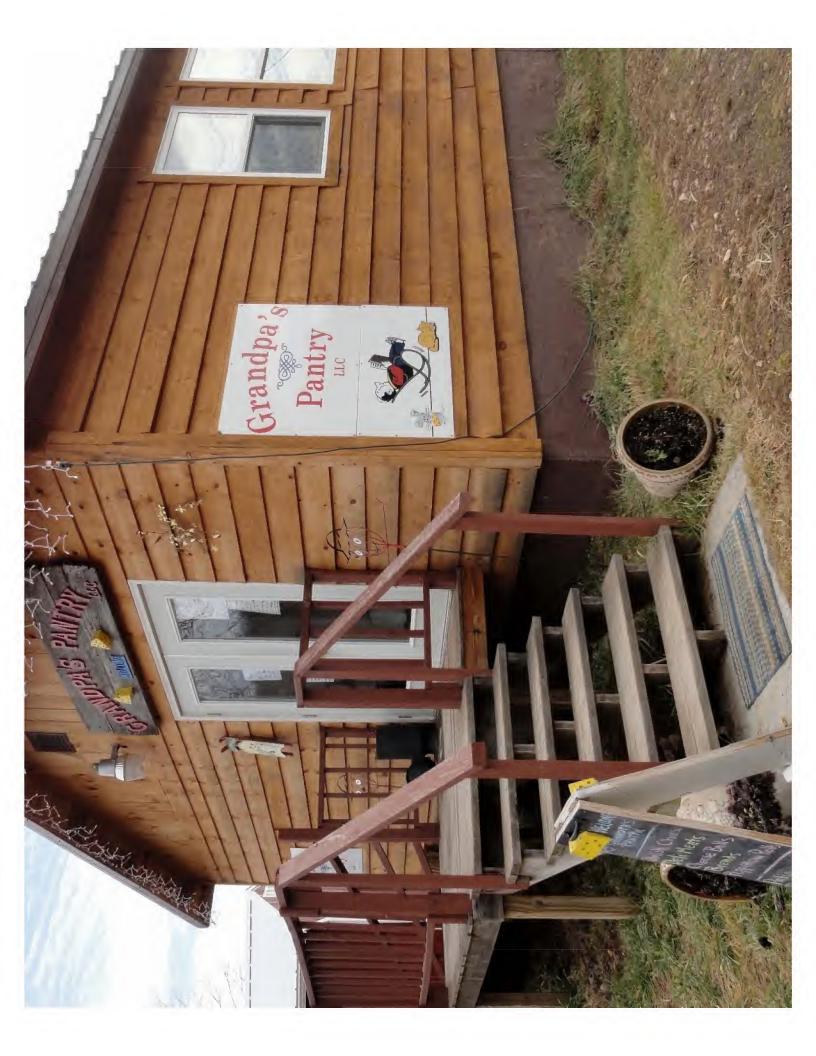
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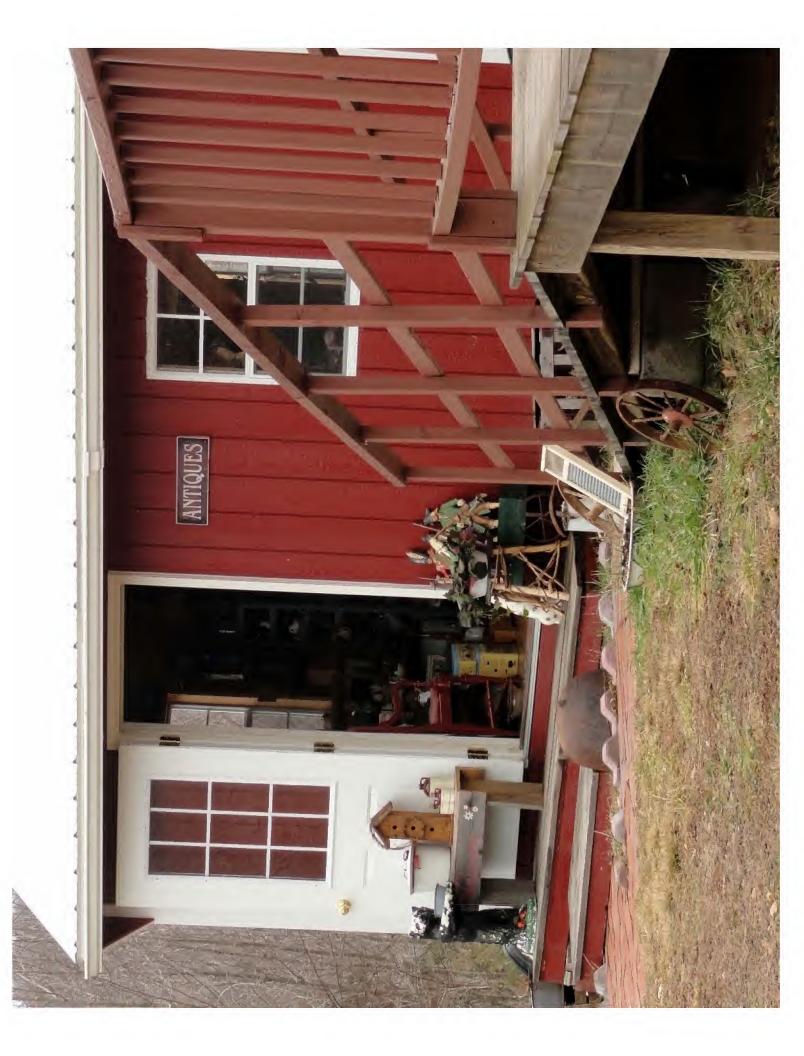






















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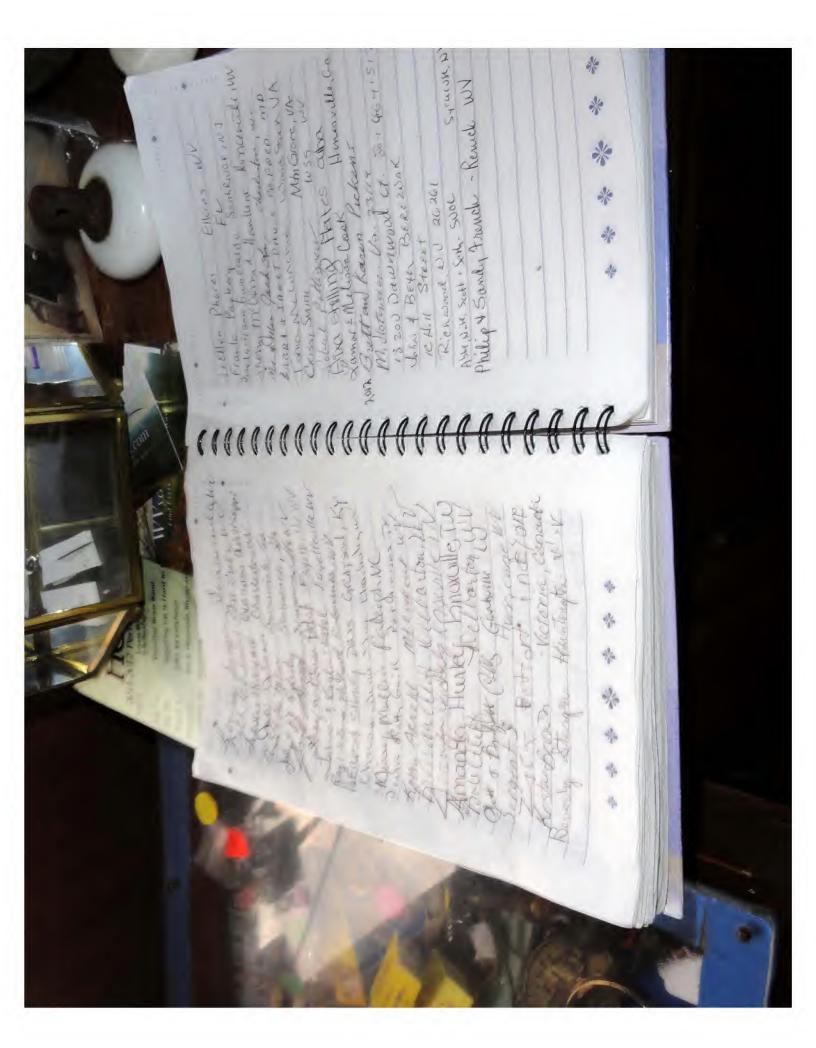


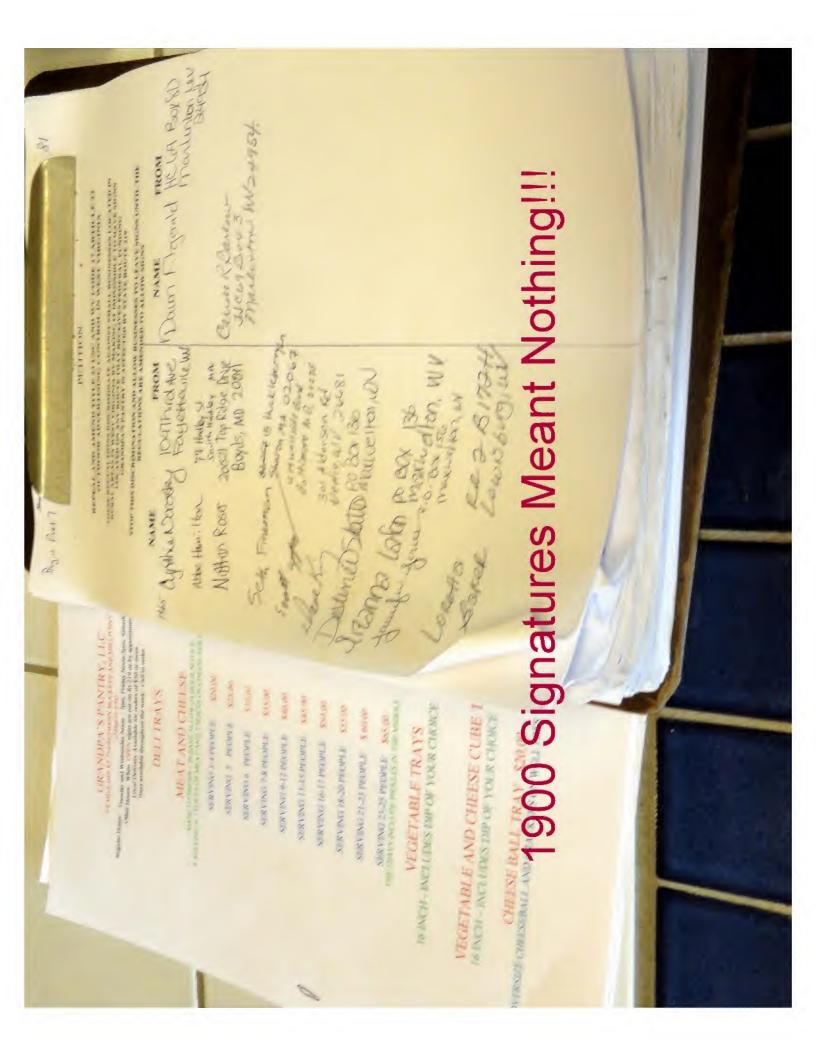


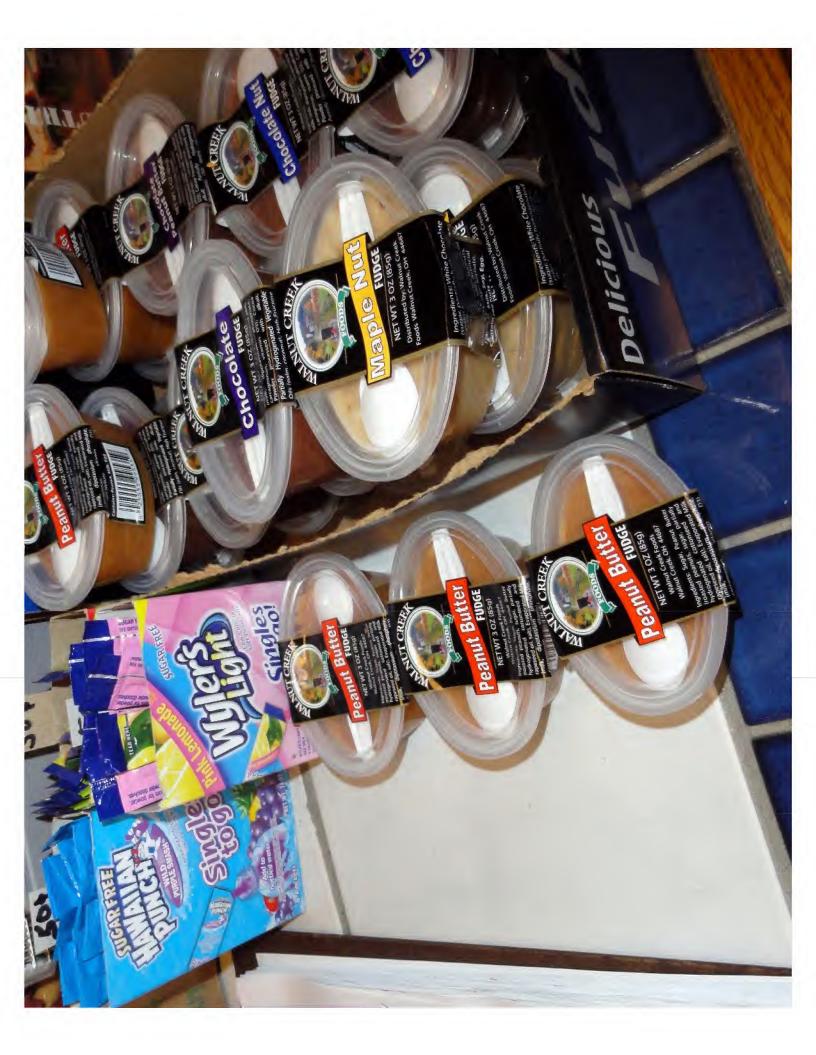


















## MEATS AND CHEESES



























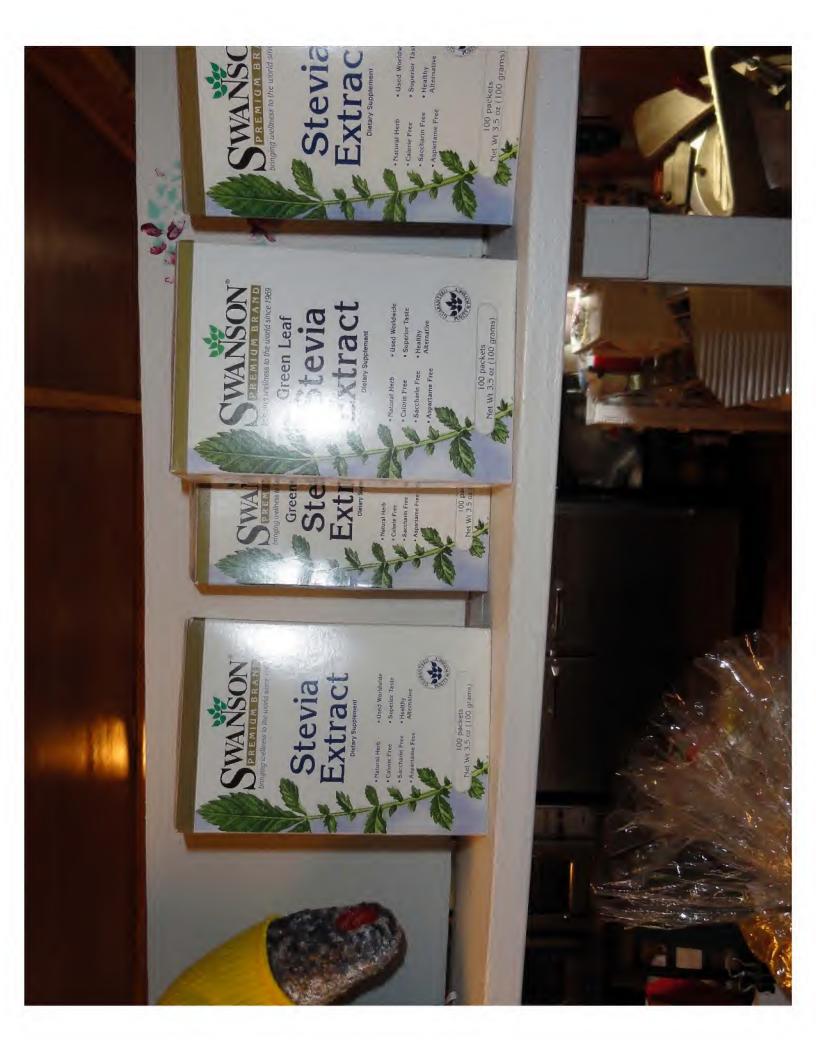






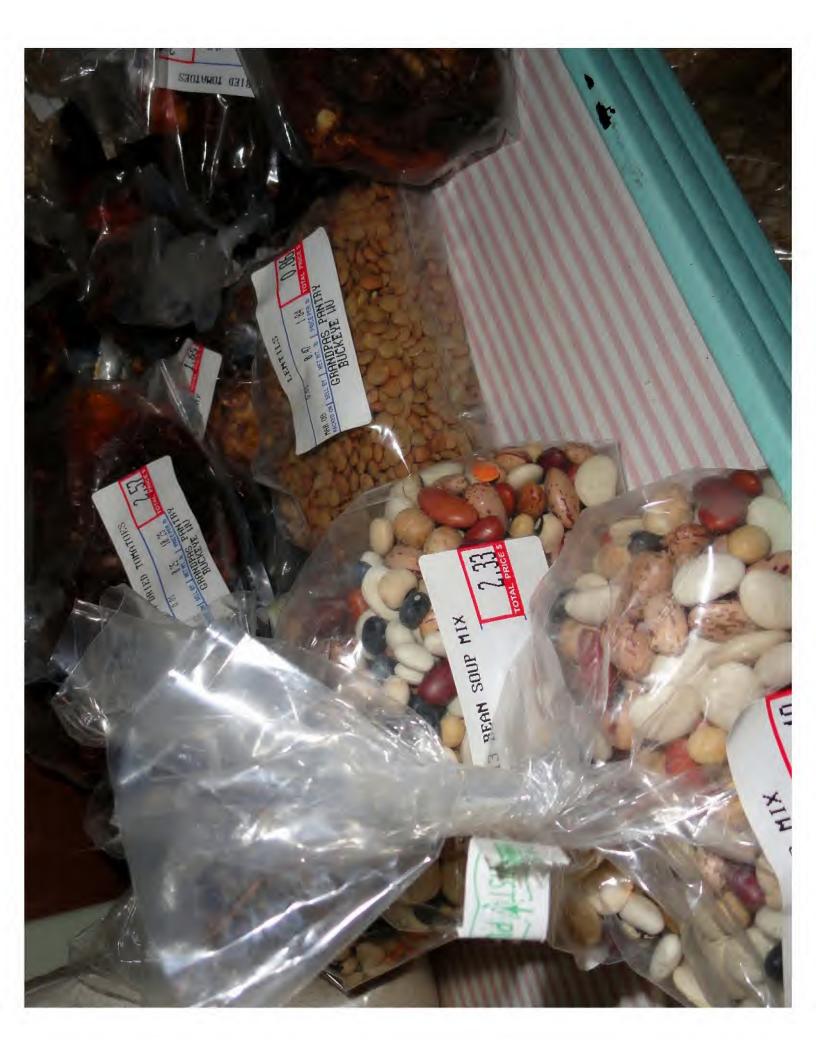






































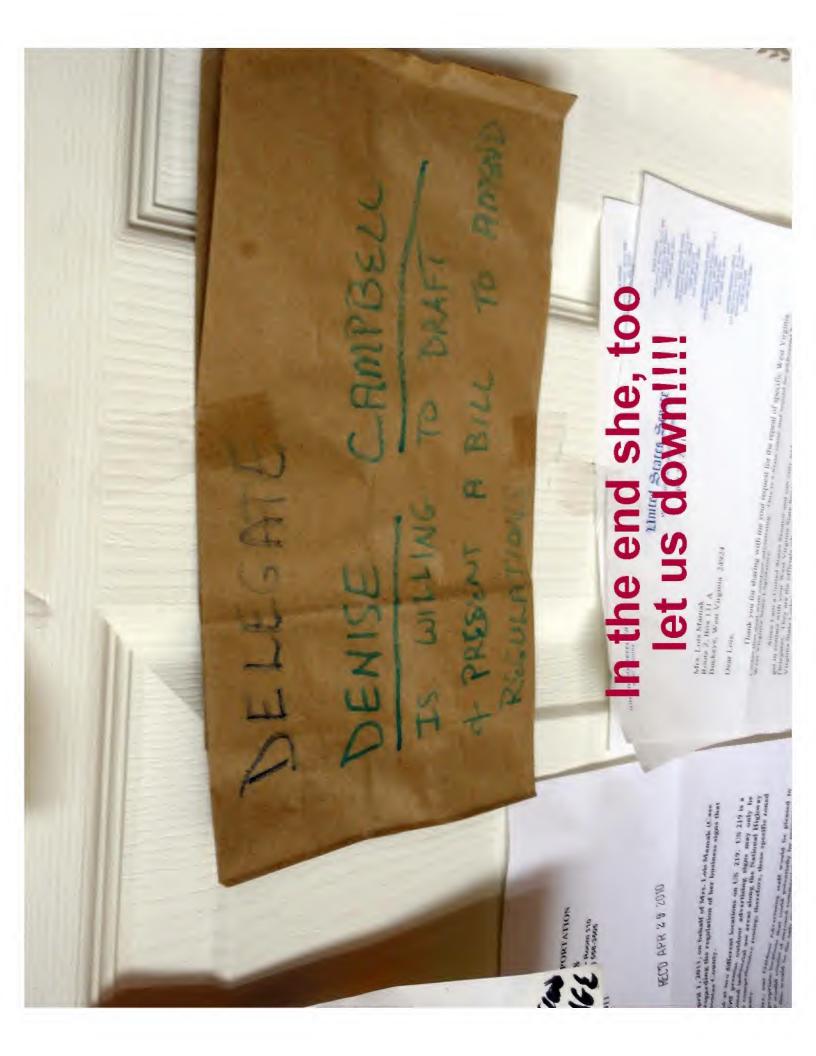




## JURY NULLIFICATION

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LOIS MAN Pantry, reads through her Campbell offered a Grandpals to show that most of her cus- of the constant of the customer of the constant of the constant of the constant of the customer of the constant of the customer of the constant of the customer and Joe store and that she had never received complaints about her described Granur to show that most of her cusguest are from outside the local area, comers are nourists enio tomes said tourists enjoy visiting her Mamak, a that she had no 90 both senators Jay

glimmer of hope that state law could be "She's actually willing to present a bill to the Legisla-

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The distance from Rouse Mamak If Grandpa's Pantry with allow DOH to receive within 660 feet of the and the sign would be legal the problem for inderal highway funds di "igos must be Sim tederal highway law elected officials. Hansil photo 219 18 the counties, tone forth watthen of Transports. the meeting. He told pusiness owner that he d do nothing, due to the had responded to m ak on April 12 and can. te DOH was put. a called er out of business.

to make it reasonable so that to this thing to get it changed she said, "We intend to work together, at this point, to get a bill drafted that she can take and she is going to conlators. She has to have so tact some of the other legisshe's going to start making small businesses can exist, rauch support to the Legisla ure to get the bill on Those continue to " State law, enacted to comply and on the same side of the within 600 feet of a business DEMORIO Rockeleller ence upset that she !

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had never received a comreceived a lot of compliplaint about her signs. In the meantime, Mamak her signs still stand on May faces a \$50 to \$500 fine if "I have an order to remove them by May 6," she said. "J had over \$3,000 out in food orders that are coming in to my store, that I couldn't candown a dirt road from Route 219. Obviously, the main road, Route 219, to do the busisign must be on the

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Grandpa's Pantry's signs is to beautify federally-funded highways. Mamak said she

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"As a matter of fact, I have

ments on our signs," she said, "The ones on 219 bring them in and then they enjoy the little signs up the driveway bringing them up here. so, we've had a for of positive comments on our signs." Most of Grandpa's business comes

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cel. So, I can't take my sign down. I'm going to leave it up and I would be guilty of a criminal misdemeanor, according to the DOH, and this would be taken up through Campbell told the business the Magistrate Court." Mamak also contacted state legisla-Campbell and Clark Barnes, as well as Acting Govtary of State Natalie tors Walt Helmick Tomblin and Secre-Tennant, As of May 2. only Tennant and

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obtain a stay on the DOH Pantry's owner that she would try to order, but didn't make any guarantees Campbell had re-Tennant sent a let-

sponded.

Mamak said she would not take the signs down on May 6, but likely would remove the signs when her food inventory was depleted. She said she can't afford a lawyer ter stating it was a matter for the Legis-

The Legislature climinals compliant advertising views a loophole allowing near on private property in 2010. Mamak's signs are hocated on a neighbor's property. from tourists and other our-Through the summer months, at least 75 percent is tourists and people who have pennanent camps here, who come in and camp." said of-county residents Marmak

with permission, but off the

## THIS IS A LETILE I SENT TO ALL OUR DELEGATES OF STATE SENATORS

hine 22, 2011

From: Lois J. Mamak

DBA Grandpa's Pantry, LLC

RR2, Box 131A Buckeye, WV 24924 (304)653-4762

To: West Virginia Senators

Re: Outdoor Advertising Regulations used to harm businesses

Dear Senators,

Some of you have received information prior to this letter. This is an open letter to all the Senators to inform you of my situation and of the regulations that are hurting our small businesses and our communities in West Virginia.

I own a very small business called Grandpa's Pantry located in rural Pocahontas County. We are a cheese specialty store specializing in Amish products and in local products. I was visited in February by Mr. DeMotto and Mr. Light of the WV Department of Transportation Outdoor Advertising Division. At that time I was informed that my 4 x 4 hand painted signs located at the intersection of the road my store is on and State Route 219 were illegal and could not be permitted at the current site. I told the Inspectors that the signs were my front door where I post my Open and Closed signs. My store is 7/10 mile from State Route 219 and the signs are essential for my business. I would have to close without them. The Inspectors were to return in March and discuss this with me. Mr. DeMotto returned in April with an order for me remove my signs by May 6.

I contacted many of my Legislators to try to get an amendment to the WV Code Chapter 17 Article 22 which states that in order for an off premise sign to be legal it must be

within 800 feet of an existing business that has a sign, that is open to the public at least 25 hours per week, that is on the same side of the road. I also contacted the Governor and asked for a Stay order for my signs until the Legislature reconvenes in January.

I started a petition to gather support for an amendment and stay order. I currently have over 1000 signatures on the petition and more coming each day.

The WV Code sprang from Title 23 United States Code. As part of Lady Bird Johnson's highway beautification program the States and the Secretary of Transportation were to agree on a plan to regulate outdoor advertising for 660 feet from any road with federal funding. The idea was to keep numerous billboards from littering the landscape in rural areas. The Outdoor Advertising Division of the WV DOT is using the regulations to harm and close small Morn and Pop businesses all over West Virginia.

I have been communicating with Delegate Denise Campbell from the beginning of my campaign to get the regulations amended so that businesses can exist. She is willing to present an amendment in the next session of Legislature. She needs your support. Small business in WV needs your support. If the regulations are amended the State would still business. It would also receive revenues from the businesses it is currently harming and running out of and the local economics. Why are we closing our businesses? Businesses located away from the main routes depend on signs to survive. Here in Pocahontas County where we have less than 9000 people, we depend on tourist trade for

I have been in contact with several US and WV legislators. The State Attorney General's office is working to help me, that you want to allow West Virginians to work, not be shut down by the Government.

If you would like copies of my petition I will be happy to supply those to you. Please contact me and I will mail you a copy. I have signatures from several of our counties. Businesses all over WV have been affected.

Sincerely

Lois J. Mamak

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

Buckeye, West Virginia 24924-9651 Mrs. Lois J. Mamak RR 2, Box 131-A

Dear Mrs. Mamak,

Thank you for returning my authorization form concerning your business

Although full responsibility for making determinations in such cases rest: officials of the West Virginia Department of Transportation, I will be ple be assured that after I have received a response, I will write to you again contact them, to urge that thorough consideration be afforded your case.

Sincerely.

United States S Joe N

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Congress of the United States Douse of Representatives

Clastington, 2C 20315-4503 April 27, 2011

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> Ms Line J. Mantal. RR 2, Bas 131A Budgwe, WV 34924-4924

Door My Manual

Thenk you are experiencing with your Congressional Office in Bockley recently regarding the problems you are experiencing with your business signs. I regret to learn of your difficulties.

In an effort to be of assistance to you, I have contacted the West Virginia Department of Transpertation on your behalf, to convey your concerns and to ask that this matter receive transcriber attention. When my information is received, I will again be in touch with you.

As you know, this is a matter that properly comes under the jurisdiction of the State of West Virginia, however, I was happy to bring your statetion to the attention of the appropriate of officials.

Preave feet free to call upon me in the future anytime that I may be of service to you in

You may wish to visa www rahalf flouse gov to sign up for electronic updates on issues.

With warm regards, I am

Singapely, Colonial Member of Cotogress

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No XPOR Businasses The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, holds the outdoor Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me a A representative of this Division has informed this office that there are We would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation and are confide Outdoor Advertising/Salvage Yards responsibility of enforcement of State laws and Code, involving 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 550-A the signs. I have also enclosed a copy of the report done by our District Eight Please be advised that upon receipt of this letter you have thirty (30), The sign(s), located on US 219, Droop Mountain and US 219, Buckey THE WALMEN'T OF TRANSPORTATION Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0440 • (304) 558-9341 signs for Grandpas' Pantry that are not legally permitted or licensed. William - E Chit William E. Light Thank you, April 4, 2011 respectively are the signs in violation of State Code. you will take immediate action to correct this issue. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mamak Dear Mr. and Mrs. Mamak,

(304) 558-9341.

Enclosures WELINA

Buckeye, WV 24924

Rt 2 Box 131-A



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